

Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB1002 H1

Patron: Tran

Bill Title: Electric utilities; disconnection procedures for nonpayment.

Bill Summary: As substituted, prohibits electric, gas, water, and wastewater utilities from disconnecting any residential customer due to the nonpayment of bills or fees prior to making reasonable efforts to offer bill payment assistance, arrange a payment plan, or provide information to the customer for other bill payment assistance or energy savings programs. The bill also requires each such utility to provide all required notices in any language that meets the threshold for having state election materials printed in that language.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: n/a

Fiscal Summary: Minimal/absorbable fiscal impact.

Fiscal Analysis: As substituted, this bill establishes several requirements for utility companies as it relates to disconnecting utilities and required notices. As substituted, the bill no longer makes changes to eligibility for the Percentage of Income Payment Program administered by the Department of Social Services.

The provisions of the bill setting forth disconnection procedures for utility companies are not expected to result in a fiscal impact to state agencies. The substitute bill requires the Department of Elections (ELECT) to post on its website a list of localities designated as a covered locality for the purpose of identifying which localities will require written materials regarding disconnection procedures to be distributed in additional languages pursuant to the bill. ELECT is required to post this list no later than September 1, 2026 and update such list as may be necessary. It is expected that any cost or workload impacts to ELECT associated with this requirement will be minimal and absorbable within existing resources.

Other: n/a